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# THE BELL RINGER

Montgomery Bell Academy

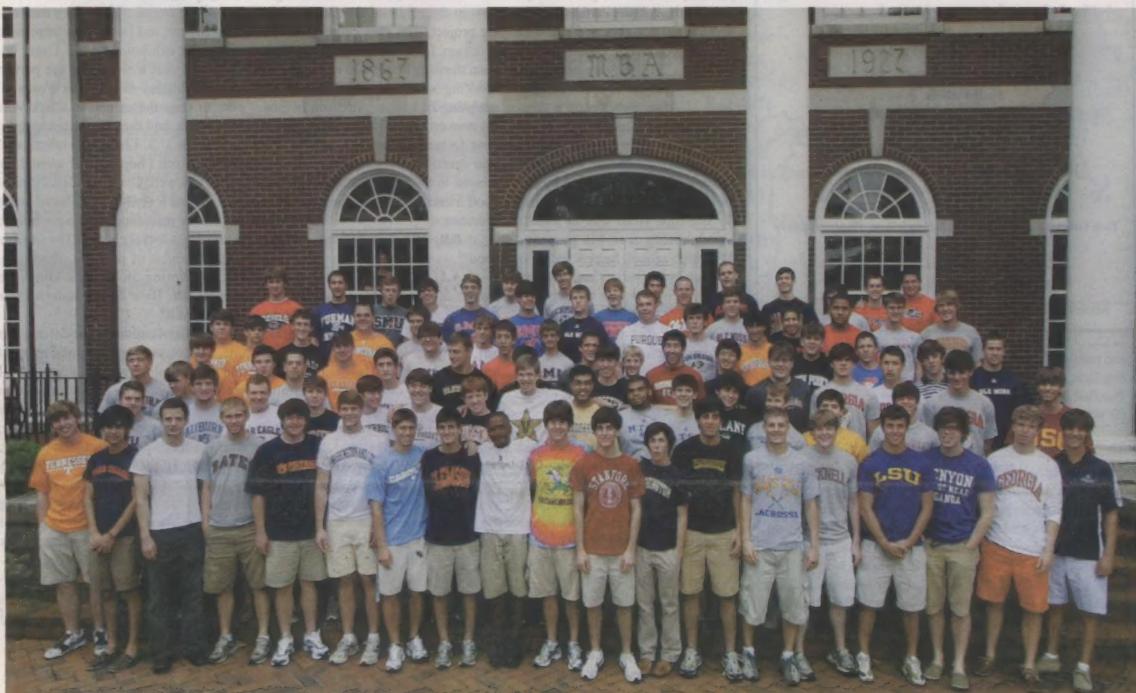
4001 Harding Road Nashville, TN 37205

28 May 2009

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## Congratulations to the MBA Class of 2009



## Seniors Don't Forget

by

Daniel Green

Staff Rememberer

Despite some unfortunate and forgettable events, the Class of 2009 has accumulated some wonderful memories during our six years on the Hill. Sometimes it was the teachers that formed great experiences for our class.

Often mentioned favorites include Mr. Moxley, Mr. Kelly, Dr. Kinch, Coach Lanier, Dr. Clark, Coach K, and Mr. Jones (affectionately referred to as Dr. J by Caldwell Ritter), each with his larger-than-life personality, quirks, and knowledge.

Mr. Moxley absolutely despises the word "flaccid," so naturally, some of our class sneaked into his room one morning and covered both of his blackboards with "flaccid," of which my favorite was a stick-man made with "flaccid."

Mr. Kelly's and Dr. Kinch's sense of humor and incredible classes will always be beloved, as well as Dr. Kinch's uncanny ability to slip innuendos into any situation. Vic Goetz would like specifically to mention his love of the *Raxxelax* essay on the semester exam.

The man named John Lanier needs no descriptions. He may be larger than MBA itself. Matt Wieck, a Lanier veteran, remembers Coach most for "yelling crazy stuff and his silent classes."

The Class of 2009 was the last class to experience another legend, Dr. Bob Clark. "One of my favorite memories," said Wade Longmire, "was Clark Benton trying to convince Dr. Clark that he was his long-lost son." Aspen stories, jokes about watts,

and meters per second... per second, Dr. Clark had it all, and his presence on campus was sorely missed by the Class of 2009 this past year.

When asked about what exactly makes Mr. Jones' Modern European History class so great, it is hard to get an exact answer from Charlie Watkins. He mutters something about Mr. Jones' all-knowing glasses, before running off shouting "JJ is a Godsend!"

Other times, favorite memories were created by forces outside of the administration's control. Jimmy Balser fondly remembers the day when MBA was, of course, the only school still in session, and hundreds of students had a massive snowball fight in the quad, as Mr. Tillman and Coach Mac wrote down people's names for

"demerits."

No account of our years on the Hill is complete without mentioning the Swine Flu. Snowstorms? Tornados? No, it takes a full-scale pandemic to close school at MBA. The students received a three-day vacation gift from the deadly virus (thank you, Tiny), which is now known as "Swine Break '09."

The Class of 2009 has had its highs and lows, for sure. We are all grateful, however, for the incredible memories shared and friends made during our time on the Hill. In anticipation of today's event, Paschal Davis would like to say that graduation is his favorite memory.

Congrats, Class of 2009!

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# The Dream is Alive: A Conversation with Alumnus Alan LeQuire

by  
Karthik Sastry  
Staff Writer

Everybody in Nashville has probably seen the majestic sculpture of Athena in the Parthenon. *The Bell Ringer* recently caught up with its architect, MBA alumnus Alan LeQuire ('74), to learn about his upcoming project *Dream Forest*.

Alan grew up on a farm in Williamson County and recalls spending his free time as a child making things out of wood and stone, a hobby encouraged by his mother, the artist Louise LeQuire. By the time Alan was at MBA, woodcarving was his passion. After high school, he proceeded to Vanderbilt University and studied pre-medicine. It was the wish of his father, a physician, that he be a doctor, but the influence of sculptors such as Olen Bryant and Puryear Mims caused LeQuire to realize that his true passion was in the arts.

By his junior year at Vanderbilt, he had made up his mind to pursue sculpture, and he spent his senior year studying abroad in France. From there he went to Italy where he became an assistant to sculptor Milton Heald and worked in an art foundry. Later, LeQuire went to the University of North Carolina at Greensboro for his Master of Fine Arts degree, attracted by its strong bronze foundry program. It was the steady stream of commissioned work from patrons in Nashville that brought him back here and helped him realize his dream of becoming a figurative sculptor.

In 1982 LeQuire was awarded the commission to create a replica of the statue of Athena that once stood in the Parthenon in Athens. To undertake such a massive project, LeQuire spent a great deal of time researching the original statue, visiting Greece and consulting numerous archaeologists. The Athena Parthenos was unveiled in 1990, and LeQuire attained national fame. Since then, LeQuire has been working on several projects. *Musica*, in the roundabout near Music Row, was unveiled in 2003 and is one of the largest bronze figure groups in the world. I asked Alan about his newest colossal work, entitled *Dream Forest*, which will be displayed at the Customs House Museum in Clarksville starting July 9<sup>th</sup>.

Bell Ringer: I heard that you were working on an exciting new project called *Dream Forest* along with Madison Smartt Bell, also an MBA alumnus. Could you tell us a

bit more about the project?

**Alan LeQuire:** Well, I'm right now in the midst of the *Dream Forest* project. The idea came to me in a dream four years ago, and I've been thinking about it ever since. I'm working with a small team on the sculpting right now. Madison helped me convert my dream narrative into a lyric format, almost like a poem. He also contributed a couple of his own dreams to the project, along with my good friends Jim Sherraden and Annie Freeman.

**BR:** What is *Dream Forest* about?

**A.L.:** *Dream Forest* is a collection of nine twelve-foot tall torso sculptures. They will be made of plaster and painted brown and gray, but I would like to cast them in bronze eventually. The exhibit is accompanied by dream narratives and woodblock prints.

**BR:** How did you go about doing this project?

**A.L.:** Well, I started by making preliminary drawings. Around last year, I started making small models; the full scale sculptures were started this March. Right now, I have completed five of the nine figures.

**BR:** Why did you choose the Customs House Museum? Additionally, are you planning a tour?

**A.L.:** Interestingly, I was there last year to see a retrospective exhibition of the works of one of my mentors, Olen Bryant, and I was really impressed with their exhibition space. I saw immediately that it would be the perfect spot to display the *Dream Forest*. I plan to keep the exhibit in Clarksville for a while, and then I hope to exhibit it around the U.S. I have two other exhibitions which I hope to tour around the country as well. One is entitled *Cultural Heroes*, and it consists of colossal heads of famous musicians who have helped bring about social change. The other is a large exhibit of portraits of women.

**BR:** Sculpting is, as you know, an ancient art. How have modern tools influenced it?

**A.L.:** Computer modeling, for one, has become really popular recently and many sculptors use it. Personally, I prefer hand modeling because it saves time. Really, the biggest change is the use of lasers for scaling up small models; it adds a lot of precision to the process.

**BR:** How do you make a living?

**A.L.:** Mainly through commissioned works. Portraiture is something that's kind of my mainstay. Vanderbilt has been one of my major clients over the years. I have gone back to the medical school many times and done portraiture of some of the retired faculty there. I never made it to medical school, but I have kept a close relationship there!



Alan LeQuire at work on *Dream Forest*.

**Robbie Alsenter**  
Southern Methodist University  
**Chris Anderson**  
University of Tennessee, Knoxville  
**Will Andrews**  
Auburn University  
**Jimmy Balser**  
Tulane University  
**Leland Bandlow**  
University of Georgia  
**Aaron Barrett**  
Vanderbilt University  
**Curry Beeker**  
Vanderbilt University  
**Clark Benton**  
Washington and Lee University  
**Bailey Brandon**  
Southern Methodist University  
**Coleman Breland**  
University of Georgia  
**Zach Brickner**  
University of Colorado at Boulder  
**Rylan Browner**  
University of Arizona  
**Richard Brunsting**  
Case Western Reserve University  
**Scott Bubis**  
University of Mississippi  
**Nicholas Caprioli**  
Rutde University  
**Luke Cole**  
University of Tennessee, Knoxville  
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**Jamie Cooper**  
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University of Tennessee, Knoxville  
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**Paschall Davis**  
University of Tennessee, Knoxville  
**Brandon Dockery**  
University of Tennessee, Knoxville  
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Georgetown University  
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Sewanee  
**Reggie Ford**  
Vanderbilt University  
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University of Florida  
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Mars Hill College  
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Louisiana State University  
**Davis Hunt**  
Auburn University  
**Barrett Jacques**  
Vanderbilt University  
**Max Jarrell**  
University of Mississippi  
**Wesley Johnson**  
Vanderbilt University  
**Ryan King**  
Auburn University  
**Taylor Land**  
University of Tennessee, Knoxville  
**Logan Leechleiter**  
Middle Tennessee State University  
**Sam Lincoln**  
Southern Methodist University  
**Owen Lipscomb**  
Auburn University  
**Wade Longmire**  
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High Point University  
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Vanderbilt University  
**Sully Mehio**  
Rhodes College  
**David Mills**  
University of Tennessee, Knoxville  
**Max Molteni**  
University of Mississippi  
**Michael Moore**  
University of Mississippi  
**Baker Mulherin**  
University of Colorado at Boulder  
**Wade Nelson**  
Auburn University  
**Bradford Norton**  
Middle Tennessee State University  
**Michael Nunan**  
Bates College  
**Houston Oldham**  
University of Richmond  
**Will Overton**  
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

**Sam Page**  
New York University  
**Chunbum Park**  
University of Rochester  
**Hooper Paty**  
University of Mississippi  
**Ryan Penney**  
Samford University  
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Sewanee

**The Montgomery Bell Academy Class of 2009 would like to offer a special thanks to Mrs. Maddux, Mr. Klausner, Ms. Serrano, Mrs. Nutkis, and Mr. McEachern for all of their help in the college search!**



**Good luck to the class of 2008 next year, wherever your life may carry you.**

## When Pigs Fly and Swine Flew: A Student's Experience

by  
**Ryan Hill**  
Staff Pandemiologist

We never imagined it could happen. MBA shutting down for a week could occur only when pigs would fly.

Day 1 seemed harmless enough. Pats on the back, shouts of joy, microbes screaming like little girls. The official beginning of the long anticipated Swine Break '09 had been announced as a couple of our own students (who will remain anonymous) were showing potentially piggy symptoms. As the school began to shut everything down, even having to stop a track meet in progress, most guys were fantasizing about a week off doing nothing. And while perhaps many lucky fellows experienced this, for others it was a much different story.

On the Monday following our lockdown, after a relaxing weekend, I met Michael Peters over at Harpeth Hall to do a track workout. We arrived just in time to complete our run in a torrential downpour. Soaked to the bone, we plodded through lap after soggy lap, unaware of the HHSSS (Harpeth Hall Super Secret Spy Satellite) currently beaming our names, social security numbers, and favorite colors to the athletic administration. Before we could wrap up our brief and harmless run, we were stopped

and asked to leave immediately because of the great threat we were posing to the campus.

Swine flu, just like any other strain of the virus, is transferred from one person to another by sneezing, coughing, or bodily contact. Was there really any danger, though, in running on an empty and partially flooded track? Surely the HH team wasn't going to practice anyway that day; in fact, they cancelled a whole meet earlier in the year due to rain.

On the run back to my house, while fighting a strange urge to go roll in the mud, Michael and I ran into Hayes McCord. He was on his way to the lake, where the epidemic couldn't be spread, and shared with us the story of a girl who got kicked out of a nail salon because of her Harding Academy t-shirt. I knew Harding had also shut down and cancelled their huge annual art show due to the flu. But now kids were being banned from public places for any association with the school? I later found out that some stores even had signs up barring entrance to MBA students.

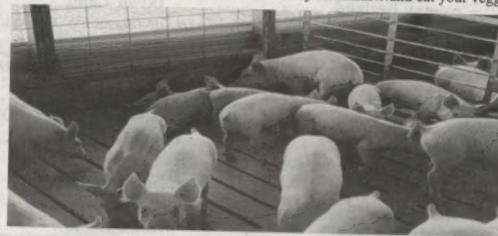
From an academic standpoint, most people viewed a week off as a safety

valve for procrastinating. At the beginning of the break, we were all told that any assignments would be sent over First Class. It sounded simple enough, and over the first few days students received few messages at all. Then one fateful afternoon, many boys opened First Class to full inboxes flooded with godzillabytes of attachments, downloads, and worksheets. The break quickly went from a "vacation" to jail time. Personally, as much fun as I had being quarantined, I just wanted to go back to school at this point.

Days later, students were back on

campus and luckily we witnessed no casualties. The only signs of swine on campus were pink pig cut-outs staked all over the quad on our last school day, what many thought to be a total failure of a senior prank. As it turned out, it was the work of the seniors' moms. How humiliating.

Hopefully the H1N1 scare will soon join C3PO and R2D2 in being a thing of the past. Just remember: this summer, while you're frolicking in the sun and spittin' some game with the Honeybees, don't cough or sneeze on anyone. And, as always, wash your hands...and eat your veggies.



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## Let's Take A Look At The History A.P. Courses

by  
**Chunbum Park**  
*Staff non-Eurocentric Historian*

A prominent graduating senior wrote last year:

"... This shockingly low number [of minority students] produces an unhealthy campus culture often ignored by many of us who have affection for MBA. This problem is exacerbated by the lack of non-Western studies in our curriculum. For example, a typical high school student's history sequence is U.S. History, Modern European History, American Government, and Economics."

In this regard, I would like to recommend to the History Department that it reconsider its current policy that unnecessarily puts the American History AP and the Modern European History AP as prerequisites for taking the World History AP. This year, the number of students in World History AP was only three, and the participation was even worse two years ago when only two students were in the class.

It is, therefore, not an adequate rationale for the History Department to blame this inherently systemic problem on an apparent lack of interest among the students. In the status quo, the World History AP suffers from direct competition with Government AP and Economics in terms of student interest, due to the general perception that the latter two courses are easier than the former. Additionally, the World History AP needs to be made more accessible to offset the "culture" factor (which I will further explain) that is possibly a better explanation for the lack of interest and posits a serious problem in itself.

I also present a critical case against the Modern European History AP curriculum, which, in my opinion, must be blamed partially (if not totally) for contributing to developing a Eurocentric psyche that disregards a global perspective. The MEHAP presents a 'West and the Rest' worldview in which "the West had always been superior..." in that this construct was extrapolated back

in time to Ancient Greece ... progressing onto the European agricultural revolution... then on to the rise of Italian-led commerce... Renaissance... the scientific revolution... the Enlightenment... into industrialization and capitalist modernity." (Hobson 7-10)

In contrast, the "Afro-Asia" (a term invented by the Eurocentric scholars for the collectively inferior non-West) is falsely portrayed as despotic, weak, and unproductive societies suffering from seasonal cycles of decline. The rise of the West is a racially linked and very linear construct of history in which "Eastern societies... clearly lie outside the mainstream story... [and are] discussed in separate sections... Eastern societies basically appear as an aside... But this aside is important not because it says little about the East but because it describes only the inherent, repressive properties that blocked its progress." (Hobson 10-11)

The Palmer textbook currently in use completely fits the description above; even its title, *The History of the Modern World*, reflects the Eurocentric scholars' willingness to treat the rest of the World only for the purpose of explaining why the Rest did not make it. It is no wonder why the MBA students are not very interested in what is outside the European narrative, when they already had an unimpressive world survey in Modern European History.

Of course, I must shrug and agree with David Landes, who wrote in the *The Wealth and Poverty of Nations*:

"As the historical record shows, for the last thousand years, Europe... has been the prime mover of development and modernity. That still leaves the moral issue. Some would say Eurocentrism is bad for us... hence to be avoided... As for me, I prefer truth to goodthink. I feel surer of my ground." (Hobson 20)

The quote above made by the professor emeritus at Harvard shows how easily

an MBA student, in a similar manner, could rationalize the historically self-evident superiority of the Europeans. One current senior last year made the following comment as a joke about MEHAP: "No, no, it's not that the West was better than the East; the West was just better!"

Although some may argue that "fact is fact," and the argumentation of such does not necessarily translate into a racial superiority claim, there is a definite overlap between the "historical record" and the "moral issue," as Landes concedes. By the time of graduation, the MBA student has worked out a strangely contradictory moral framework that defends the rationale for white supremacy and at the same time

upholds the Jeffersonian belief of equality.

I propose two real policy solutions for the school. First, offer the World History AP for the juniors as an alternative to the Modern European History AP. Second, incorporate anti-Eurocentric literature into the Modern European History courses as either standard textbooks, recommended outside reading, or class handouts.

I'd like to bid good luck to the future history students at MBA and say thank you to the teachers who taught me here, including my history teachers, Mrs. Bakken, Mr. Brown, Mr. Bernatavitz, Dr. Bailey, Dr. Clements, and Mr. Herring.



Chunbum holds up to peace sign, as he tries to persuade Rahul Sastry that the East is, indeed, superior to the West.

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## The First Annual Quiz Bowl: A Most Spectacular Event

by  
**Will Stewart**  
*Staff Buzzer Pusher*

As the sun was setting on what had been a beautiful day, countless fans flocked to Montgomery Bell Academy to watch the event of the year. To be sure, Tuesday, April 28<sup>th</sup> will always be remembered in everyone's mind as a day of great importance. There was the Mother-Son Breakfast, the Freshman City Track Championship, and numerous lacrosse games.

These events, though, were not what made Tuesday, April 28<sup>th</sup> a great day. No, it was the first annual MBA/Harper Hall Quiz Bowl that drew everyone's attention.

In the dim light of the auditorium, a battle was about to begin. The MBA team of senior Karl Mecklenborg, junior Denney Sandwith, sophomore Andrew Powell, and freshman Will Stewart was preparing to contend with the Harper Hall team of senior Madeline Wiseman, junior Meredith Lang, sophomore Claire Cato, and freshman Maddie Shankle. However, to everyone's alarm, junior Denney Sandwith was not present! Fortunately, Campbell Haynes assuaged everyone's fears by filling in for Denney until he made his appearance.

It was a hard fought battle, with questions ranging from Greek Mythology (Who was sentenced to forever push a giant stone up a hill, only to have it fall back down? Answer: Sisyphus) to Literature (Who wrote the book featuring the love-struck Elizabeth Bennet and Mr. Darcy? Answer: Jane Austen) to History (What famous couple lost the Battle of Actium? Answer: Antony and Cleopatra).

The boys immediately pulled out to a steady lead, which they maintained for the entire competition. It looked like it was going to be a blowout until, to everyone's surprise, the girls managed suddenly to pull up from behind towards the end (although the Harper Hall team was in charge of keeping score).

However, the MBA team still managed to pull off the victory, winning 38-34. Charging five dollars per person and with about 80 people attending, the Quiz Bowl raised roughly \$400 for the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Hopefully, next year's Quiz Bowl will be able to be an even bigger success.



MBA's study team, composed of (from left to right) Will Stewart, Campbell Haynes, Karl Mecklenborg, and Andrew Powell.



Deeply pondering a question with Karl, Denney Sandwith managed to make a fashionably late appearance.

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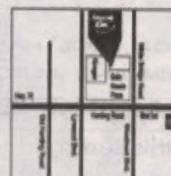
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## Senior Class Produces News...and A Farewell

by  
**Fadi Pulous**  
*Lacrimose News Editor*

My fingers feel almost thirty pounds heavier as I pound the letters for this final "senior class news" column. What has been an incredible six years for most (less for others) has culminated with the commencement of the class of 2009 in almost unexpected fashion. The 101 members have plenty of memories from the past half of a decade, and this article hopes to highlight those while giving everyone a sneak peak on upcoming, soon-to-be summer memories.

**Hicks Woolwine** wanted to give a shout out to his band *Seizure Salad* and the similarly loved *In Case of Fire*, both of which are playing a huge show at the Horseshoe Bend Clubhouse to kick off the summer. With the vocal talent of **Barrett Jacques**, the pizazz of **Baker Mulherin**, the strumming of **Brandon Dockery**, and the shady backdrop assistance of **Taylor Land**, this is sure to be a great show. Hicks has also officially committed to Sewanee.

**Ian Preston's** favorite memory was the recent Ultimate Frisbee state domination at the USN river campus. Ian's also very ecstatic about the year ending and his future at Rhodes College.

**Zach Brickner's** rather faint memories of the past years include various

Steeplechases and his acceptance into CU Boulder. Unfortunately, he was unable to extrapolate, as **Will Rowland** had his head in a ferocious headlock that caused both Zach to become unconscious and Will to rip another one of his t-shirts. Here's to keeping capitalism alive.

**Will Holt**, unnecessary contributor to the senior class news, claims he will be purchasing a feeble public cable television show for the purpose of exploiting it and running a constant loop of pictures from Mr. Tillman's photos over the years. He also plans to reside with **Malcolm Morrison** and the few remaining members of the Beach Boys as he rehearses for life during the hot summer days ahead.

**Ben Gregory**, Wash U, St. Louis bound, remembers painting up for the first and last time for a football game and, also, the 24-hour Shakespeare marathon. Good times Ben, though please, in the future, restrain from taking your shirt off in public.

**Will Rowland**, clearly the class's most popular student, will be touring Italy with **Nick Williams** and a personal friend of Will's. Nick says it'll be a quiet trip, with not too many disturbing noises to ruin the

peace and sanctity of greater central Europe, as Will probably did last summer.

**Karl Mecklenborg** has given up his life in the spotlight and will be retiring to his dorm room at Vanderbilt with **yours truly** as they prepare for four years of unrelenting Commodore support.

**Harding McCall** will be spending much of his free time listening to new bands and CD's as he introduces himself to the bands that he'll be seeing at Bonnaroo 2009 this summer. A good chunk of the class is heading to Bonnaroo, and it's not too late to get tickets!

**Wyatt Redd**'s favorite memories are hard to piece together, but on his behalf I'd like to say it should be when he gave **Sam Page** a vicious concussion in eighth-grade lacrosse practice. Sam Page, being the resilient type, has recovered and is now a huge component of one of the nation's largest New York Mets blogs. Google *amazinavenue* for a better look.

No one's sure what **Houston Oldham** will be doing this summer after his personal e-mail was not coherent in English or in any of the five romance languages. But one can assume he'll be kicking a ball around to stay in shape for his upcoming

tenure at Richmond, where he'll be playing some great soccer.

**Michael Nunan**'s favorite memories over the years no doubt involved showing up every guy at social gatherings, as he came dressed in suits that would put Sinatra to shame...flat billed cap in tow, of course. Thank you, you disgrace.

Well, if the above paragraph isn't a testament to the characters of the class of 2009, then I don't know what better way to say it. It has been a remarkable adventure with everyone. The six years have flown by just fast enough for everyone to become situated and now be adequately prepared to move ahead into whatever college and the future may hold. The good times, unbelievable; the bad times, difficult, but bearable with such an array of friendships. Obviously, every other grade including the faculty will miss the class of 2009. So, in honor of this mutual feeling of affection, the seniors would like to leave Jimmy Balser at MBA as a memento to a good student gone bad, gone good again, gone way too good for now. Just kidding, Jimmy got into a college.

Farewell everyone and thanks for a great run on the hill!

## VU's Fugitives Had Ties To MBA

by  
**Thomas Moore**  
*Staff Historian*

Country music is a hallmark of the South, especially in the nation's Music City. A musical tradition, however, older than that of any country singer-songwriter has long cloaked the city of Nashville in an aura of mystique and romance.

Now forgotten by many and appreciated by few, this tradition needed not the accompaniment of guitars, nor the strumming of banjos, nor the bearded visage of Hank Williams, Jr.: words *lonesome*, *cold*, and *startling*, strung together in poetic form, were the instruments with which the sentiments of the South were expressed before even the advent of the Grand Ole Opry.

The setting was Vanderbilt, the year 1922, and a southern literary renaissance was bubbling. In that year, a group of young poets, all students at Vanderbilt, began publishing their short-lived, yet influential, poetry magazine *The Fugitive*. The group that earlier had found its beginning in intellectual and philosophical discussion and debate under the leadership of native Tennessean, John Crowe Ransom, had, by this time, evolved into a more diverse coterie of scholars, among whom were Allen Tate, Donald Davidson, and Robert Penn Warren. This discussion group slowly developed its interests, until, by 1922, the members were expressing their ideals in the form of profound, stirring poetic verse.

The Fugitive poets, as the group came to be called, were able drastically to direct the course of modern literature in the early 20th century through their paradoxically traditional, yet cutting-edge work. Ransom, perhaps the most traditional and formal of the group, maintained a poetic

voice that was at the same time witty and bitingly sardonic. Allen Tate, the most progressive and cosmopolitan of the group, was able to express most poignantly the intellectual alienation of the modern Southerner in such famous poems as "Ode to the Confederate Dead". The movement of literary analysis known as New Criticism was started largely through the efforts of John Crowe Ransom. In such ways were the Fugitives, centered in Nashville, able to exert their influence on the manner in which scholars and readers across the world thought about literature.

Recently MBA has sought to make known the works and accomplishments of the Fugitives by publishing a special, commemorative edition of *Archives*, the school's literary magazine. As this reporter dug deeper into the project of uncovering the Fugitive legacy, the more he realized the connections the Fugitives had with not only Vanderbilt and the surrounding community, but also with MBA itself, and the more strongly he believed that this *Archives* project was essential in preserving a Southern literary movement that was engendered in our own city, but which went on to reach far beyond the boundaries of the South.

To begin this project, this reporter first trekked to the Princeton University Special Collections Department, where the Allen Tate papers are currently held. There I perused original drafts of poems and handwritten correspondence between Allen Tate, T.S. Eliot, Ezra Pound, and other major poets of the time.

Some of this reporter's greatest discoveries, however, occurred not in the

distant North, but here on the MBA campus. With the help of English teacher Mr. Moxley, he was able to arrange an interview with Mr. Moxley's neighbor, Mrs. Helen Tate, the widow of Allen Tate. Her sons John and Ben both graduated from MBA.

The MBA-Fugitive links continued, as I discovered that former Chairman of the MBA Board of Directors and local historian, Ridley Wills, is the son of Fugitive poet Jesse Wills. MBA science teacher Mr. Gordon Chinery, as this reporter discovered, is the cousin of well-known Southern writer Caroline Gordon, Allen Tate's first wife and the woman with whom he lived in the nearby town of Clarksville. When I spoke with Mr. Chinery, he recalled several stories about Allen Tate, whom he knew during his time at Sewanee.

Perhaps the discovery that astonished me the most was reading that Merrill Moore, one of the leading Fugitives, actually graduated from MBA in the early '20s. At that time Isaac Ball was an instructor and headmaster at MBA, and he is largely credited for the discovery and encouragement of Moore's literary aptness and poetic ability. Isaac Ball often allowed Moore to compose sonnets instead of writing themes. At Vanderbilt, Moore learned short-hand so that he could write more sonnets between classes. The work paid off, for, by the time of Moore's death in 1957, he had composed more sonnets than anyone in the world, totaling around 50,000.

I often asked myself during my research why I had not discovered the Fugitives earlier in my time at MBA, the

institution that produced the most prolific sonneteer in the history of mankind. This question can largely be answered when one observes the backlash against the Fugitives incited primarily by Vanderbilt. In recent years, the Vanderbilt faculty, instead of embracing its literary heritage, has devoted its energies to deconstructing what they deem to be the overly-chauvinistic outlook of these writers.

I find such an occurrence extremely unfortunate and the result of nothing more than historical and literary ignorance, not to mention self-serving arrogance. To attempt to measure the importance of the past by present-day standards is certainly foolish, and to disregard the significance and sheer beauty of Fugitive poetry because of the writers' political and societal beliefs is even more so.

It was with the intention of promoting the Fugitive legacy and their significance not only to the Nashville area, but to the world of literature, that *Archives* decided to produce its own tribute to the group. The Fugitive-themed *Archives* is scheduled for release on the day of the commencement ceremony. The issue includes an introduction, an interview with Mrs. Helen Tate, several letters of correspondence, and several facsimiles of Allen Tate's original manuscripts, followed by student writing and art. The *Archives* staff, under the guidance of faculty advisor Dr. Batten, has worked hard in the production of this issue, and we hope that everyone will procure his own copy on graduation night and enjoy the contents!

# Sophomores' Last Hurrah Sends Them Into Summer

by  
**Andrew Powell**  
*Staff Summer Traveler*

It is been a solid year for the ever sporty sophomore studs, but all are certainly looking forward to the summer. The few months of aestivation hold in store a number of wondrous and worthy activities for MBA's rising junior class. The following summation of sophomore/soon-to-be-junior summer activities is in no logical order, only the order in which these noble fellows informed me of their plans:

**John Wyse**, known now by the sobriquet "drbsly," claims a rather ambitious summer agenda. He tells me, "I am spending my entire summer concocting a master plan to steal **John Powell**'s nifty shoes. Then I will win the state XC championship, wearing them in a Cinderella story for the ages." He goes on to tell of the ensuing cage match between **Coach Russ** and **Bill Matthews** over the magical kicks, on which he organizes the wagers and gets a massive profit, enough to build a time machine to travel back to the beginning of the summer. Finally, Drbsly will take a much deserved nap. Let us know how all that works out, Drbs.

**Nick Bessette** is going to Hawaii. Maybe he'll get a tan.

**Mohammad Mehio** says, "I will be taking 4 flights all the way to Beirut, Lebanon for 16 days. There I will visit my cousins' condos in the mountains, go into the downtown district (which has many classy shops and entertainment areas), go swimming at the rocky beach there, canoe in rivers, and also visit a myriad of traditional Lebanese restaurants."

**Russ Anderson**, in a tidbit of current news, would like to remind **Patrick Duffy** that he slaughtered him in laser quest.

**Ian Sharbel** is going to Disney World, en route to Narnia, he claims, where he will spend the majority of his summer. Say "hello" to **Will Farrar** while you're in Narnia, Ian.

**Will McCaskill**'s summer will be composed of football workouts, Destin with friends, and Cancun with family. **Cullen Moran** will spend ten days in Honduras on a mission trip with Cathedral of the Incarnation, and go to the Iowa State wrestling camp with **Chris McClure**.

**Will Granberry** last Thursday at 5:32 pm became the eighth person to respond to my email to the class. Congratulations, Will! In celebration, Will says he will engage in a summer-long, world-wide hunt to find and kill squasch.

**Ryan Hill** will be working on the Young Life work crew for the month of June at Sharptop Cove, GA, during which time his boot-brotha **Michael Peters** will be lonely.

The ever mysterious **Patrick Duffy** responded to my request for news with an email simply saying, "This is pretty much how my summer is going to go." Thank you for sharing, **Patrick**.

**Paul Van Pernis** is going to Cuba and South Texas for part of his summer,

and will be working at an Ace Hardware. So if anyone needs nails or screws, or 100 ft of twine to tie a Christmas tree on top of a house, **Paul** is your man.

**Jack Hallemann**'s news submission included these words, "¡Hola! ¡Tenga un buen Dia!" as well as some other words. Thank you for your words, **Jack**.

**Nick Kohler** is currently in France, enjoying the beautiful . . . scenery. Also, as we in Doc Seay's 5th period Latin class are well aware, French is his favorite language. Have fun in France, **Nicky**.

**Michael Peters** is "getting better every single day, no matter what it takes. Only 162 days til XC State!" He and the rest of the sophomore XC fellas express their want for Tate "Melbern" Ramsden to run this fall. Please, **Tate**?

**Woldn** plans to eat everything on the McDonald's menu in 24 hours, then take a 17-hour nap, watch every season of Mr. Rodgers, eat sushi while watching Oprah, create a lego village using 576,000 pieces, and go to a Wiggles concert. Keep on, keppin' on, **Woldn**.

When asked about his summer, **Partha** "tre foie/are you?" Reddy replied,

"Hey, you know me! I'll have a combo of swingin' my rag and trying on new Trion Zs." We are all trying and figure out what that means, **Partha**.

**Chris Goodrich** will be attending Governor's School, working at Radnor, as well as in plays and the musical. He must have changed his mind, though, because he later replied to my email saying he was going to, "Break the land speed record on a tricycle, fuse a monkey and a frog with science to form a fronkey, and replace all my internal organs with ziplock bags full of various pudding flavors," among a number of other interesting aspirations.

**Cedric Smith** told me most of his summer is going to be volunteering at a zoo in New Orleans, where he will feed the animals, clean their habitats, etc. He says the worst part is having to feed gorillas because, "they are pretty mean - they throw all types of things at you, including their feces." Good luck, **Cedric!** And for that unique activity, **Cedric** wins the Sophomore News Award for coolest response. Congratulations, **Cedric**, for this monumental achievement!

**Chilly Philly Daniele** says over the summer, "I'm hunting wolverines with my uncle in Alaska with a freakin 12 gauge."

In a non-animal related story, **Connor Page** claims that he will be spending his summer in space. Have fun doing flips and . . . such. **Jack Keller** tells me, over his summer "I'm going to taser my neighbor, repeatedly," to which **Will Baker** says, "Whoa now, Jack, CHILLY!" On a side note, Will is going to say his new phrase "chilly beans" once for every frisbee. **Mitchell Shope** throws over the summer.

And finally, on a very sad note, the Class of 2011 is losing a valued member as

**Shelby DeWeese** is moving to Kentucky. Come back and visit sometime, **Shelby**? We'll all miss you.

This summer is sure to be a good one as the sophomores become juniors and

start looking towards college and bigger things. It's an exciting time. So have a good summer, everyone! And, as **Woldn** loves to say, don't forget to bring a towel.

## Freshmen Have Plans For The Summer

by  
**Joe Scherrer**  
*Staff Travel Reporter*

School's finally out for us freshman; no longer are we going to be slaves to the upper class, bowing to the senior's every wishes! Here's what some rising sophomores are up to this summer:

**John Mark** and **Daniel Bellet** are lifeguarding at the JCC for the first time this summer, along with doing what Daniel calls "belletting" – practicing for whateverfeat of manliness they decide to take on next.

**Maclin Davis** says he is practicing to be a DJ this summer and, of course, swimming. He's also writing songs with **Blair Griffith** and **Hunter Woolwine** for their band, the Moderates.

**Paul Brazil** is going to Germany this summer with Luca Kerstner, the exchange student he hosted in April.

**Adam Hawiger** is visiting Poland to go to a wedding and to "have, uh, fun. Yes..."

**Hunter Woolwine** is hiking in the Smoky Mountains and playing miniature golf in Gatlinburg with **Aidan Davis**. He also says he is lifting 300-pound rocks in his spare time, and drumming.

**Kelly Haseltor** is going to debate camp and a programming camp to learn how to make video games. He's currently working on an FPS game that he hopes will be out by next year.

Some pretty ambitious plans, but, then, our freshmen are some pretty ambitious fellows. Have a great summer vacation!



Freshmen and sophomores stay loose before the spring concert.



Mitchell Shope represents the sophomore class at the Full Moon Film Festival.

## The Sully Awards: *The Bell Ringer's Restaurant Award Show*

by

**Sully Mehio & Wyatt Redd**  
Staff Food Connoisseurs

Our short tenure as staff food critics is now coming to an end. Now, now, don't cry, we had a great time while it lasted, writing reviews of restaurants none of you have ever been to, and while we are fully aware that none of you has ever visited a restaurant after reading our review (jerks), we like to think we made a difference.

To end the year, however, we've organized a series of short reviews for restaurants you could visit over the break. (Sully will cry if you don't.) We almost included the one next to the zoo, but not the one with mystery meat because, although it makes for a decent story, it's one of those things that's like "hey, at least we had fun, right?" but then your friend turns to you and says, "naw, dawg, that meat gave me gas that upset the chair," and pretty soon you have it, too, and you still have the 3<sup>rd</sup> degree burns to prove it.

So, here are some good restaurants you should visit over the summer which are worthy of a Sully:

**Brewhouse 100:** Brewhouse 100 is located on Highway 100 next to Hicks Woolwine's house. Besides great food and a great loud bar with plasma TVs, they also offer the BEST WINGS EVER. They have just the right amount of kick (maybe they need more, but that's just because we like our food white hot), succulent sauce, and

lots of juicy grilled meat on the bones. We STRONGLY recommend the Chipotle BBQ and Panama flavors.

Makes both of our top 5 lists: 5 out of 5 Hicks Woolwines.

**Blue Coast Burrito/Chile Burrito:** Essentially the same restaurant, except Chile has better hot sauce and Blue Coast has a few more options. Don't forget to put the queso and the hot salsa/sauce in the burrito before you eat it, or it's only half of what a real burrito should be. Blue Coast and Chile make burritos of such legendary substance, that all the other burritos cower in their presence, hoping that one day they could achieve an honor so great as to become half of what these burritos are.

Easily gets a 5 out of 5 wannabe burritos sacrificed to fuel the festive fires atop Atahuaxacal temple that appears the thirst of these divine Chile/Blue Coast burrito beings.

**Ru-San's Sushi Bar:** Seventeen years of experience says it all. Best sushi in town, and if you don't like sushi, they have a great Chinese food bar, too. Fried bananas for dessert really won us over. The sushi is fresh, there's an extensive variety, and it easily beats sushi from any other restaurant around. Things unique to Ru-San's include: authentic tempura potatoes, fried octopus, serve-your-own wasabi and ginger bowls,

and the fact that it's all located inside a wall next to City Hall. During lunch hours it's only \$10 per person, but dinner gets pricy. It's a regular for us.

5 out of 5 Japanese staff members who still can't speak English too well after running a restaurant here for seventeen years, but make up for it with great service and even better food.

**Wing Basket:** Let's be honest with you here — the sole reason this restaurant made it to our list was because of their fries. We can't figure out how they make them so good — they only use black pepper, sea salt, and brown sugar, but they use them in such perfect proportions that you can barely comprehend it. The wings are great: they've got a few awesome flavors such as Kentucky Bourbon, Classic Buffalo, Sweet Heat, and the infamous TNT. We barely got past one wing of TNT — it's nearly as hot as biting into a fresh habanero. It burns 'til you'll tear up; it may give you a rash, and it will totally give you a really hellish trip to the bathroom. Also, they offer good dips to complement those juicy wings.

Gets 5 out of 5 glasses of cold water to wash those TNT wings down.

**Wild Ginger:** Ignore the ridiculous name. This restaurant serves a special type of food called "fusion". It hails from the faraway land of Seattle, and it brings the

weirdest, yet most satisfying food you'll eat in Nashville. They serve Black Widow Sushi. But that's as extreme as it gets. Most of the menu is exotic, crazy-looking sushi and the rest is all regular American food. You should also eat here because it looks real fancy, like an upper-class space ship from Japan that is full of city folk who love eating spiders with bowl-shaped spoons.

4.5 out of 5 bitter newspaper reviewers from the inner city who have high expectations / are too stingy to give it a 5.

**Which Wich** (I forgot how this is spelled, and I don't go back to look things up. It's in the past now, let it go.) I'm sure most of you have eaten here at some point, but if you haven't been recently, they changed the menu, so it's worth another look. If you are completely unfamiliar with the restaurant, they sell sandwiches that you order by checking off what you want on a paper bag and giving it to them. They recently added some things to the menu, some of which are good, others are a little weird. (Jelly? On a sandwich!?) They also raised the price by about a dollar, but until my court battle with the US Mint to have my face placed on the dollar bill (lousy Democrats), then dollars are basically worthless. This is my favorite place to get sandwiches because its less expensive than Jersey Mike's.

I give it four out of five Sullys.

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## Cellophony '09 Draws A Crowd

by  
Thaleia Melpomene  
Staff Muse

On Sunday evening, May 10, about 150 MBA students, family, friends, and faculty gathered to support *Cellophony*, a musical fund-raiser for the W.O. Smith School of Music. The W.O. Smith School provides music lessons and instruments to children of little means at fees of almost zero. This school is one of the truly pure and beneficial organizations around. This year's *Cellophony* raised about \$530 for the W.O. Smith School.

*Cellophony* was begun in 2002 by two remarkably talented cellists, Hamilton Berry and Michael DeBruyn (both MBA class of '03). Every spring since then, MBA musicians have gathered and brought a mix of musical styles, from Bach to Lynyrd Skynyrd, from Radiohead to Miles Davis. This year's event was headed by Alex Martin, the ultra-talented actor/musician, who plays with considerable skill the piano, the guitar, and the drums. As in years past there was music of several genres.

This evening of *Cellophony* began with Alex, Brandon Dockery (bare feet and rhythm guitar), and Baker Mulherin (drums) doing a number from The White Stripes. Now, this reviewer does not know who the sound engineer was or who decided the mix for this number and the next two songs, but it certainly did not allow the audience to hear the vocalists. In this first number Alex was indistinguishable from the percussion.

The next two songs found Barrett Jacques at the microphone. We know that he can sing, and we really enjoy his voice and his technique, but, my goodness!, no one could hear him over the highly amp'd strings and percussions. This third number, a piece by MGMT, included Lewis Armistead in a duet with Jacques, and Will Henry played guitar, but the best element of this ensemble was Josh Liang on the flute.

The fourth slot of the evening brought Miles Davis' jazz and Mr. Rundberg to the stage. Joining MBA's jazzmeister on this song were Michael Nunan on trumpet, Alex Martin on piano, Bradford Norton and Hicks Woolwine on guitars. Since jazz works on this reviewer's nerves, he can't offer an objective assessment of the quality of their play. It was just Miles Davis and annoying.

One of the three best performances of the night was the seventh act doing a Radiohead cut named "Bodysnatchers". Cooper Thomas came on and brought some life to the stage with his guitar-playing. With him on this one were Barrett, Alex, Bradford, and Brandon (still unable to find

his shoes). Cooper is fun to watch. He seems to get into the music more than just settling in on the stage.

Zan Berry (class of '08), younger brother of the co-founder of *Cellophony* and a very talented cellist in his own right, came on next. With Alex playing the piano and Michael Nunan doing the trumpet, Zan brought the cello into this year's show with Radiohead's "Like Spinning Plates". This is one of those bizarre songs which made Radiohead famous. There were times during this piece when the audience could not distinguish between the trumpet, the cello, and the feedback. Perfect harmony!

After another bout of jazz, an unusual group took the stage, fronted by Will Holt's singing. The music this group chose for displaying their varied talents was Delta Spirit's "Parade." Alex, Michael, Bradford, Brandon (still without shoes), and Matt Wieck brought us the music to back up Will's singing. All we can say about this number is that Will needs to stick with acting. During this song his histrionics exceeded his vocals.

The penultimate number of the evening brought another excellent performance. Opening the song alone was Alex Martin, singing and picking on his guitar "Styrofoam Boots" by Modest Mouse. Although he does not have a flashy singing voice, it is an agreeable sound, and his modest range is perfect for some songs... like this one. Coming in to join Alex were Bradford and Matt. This group made the song just right.

Ending the show was the best performance of the evening, by far. "Blue Ridge Mountains" by Fleet Foxes was the song. Michael Nunan on the piano, Bradford Norton and Alex on guitars, and Baker Mulherin on percussion backed up the surprise of the night. And a pleasant surprise it was! Fadi Pulus sang with a perfectly pitched and hauntingly exact voice. The beauty of his voice caused everyone to focus; everyone in the audience was drawn into the song through his voice. Mercifully, the other musicians allowed his vocals to be heard and appreciated. Fadi needs to perform more often.

The whole evening was fun, and it is always a treat to watch and hear the talent MBA students possess. Not only does *Cellophony* raise money for a very worthy cause, but also it provides an opportunity for more people to appreciate the talented young men who attend MBA.



Fadi and Alex rock "Blue Ridge Mountains."



Joshua Liang plays a fantastic flute part to MGMT's "Electric Feel."



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## Four Huge Movies Deserve Brief Report

by  
**Will Holt and Jimmy Balser**  
*Entertainment Co-Editors*

*X Men Origins: Wolverine* - The mid-night opening of this movie marked our first night of swine "flu-cation". Totally ignoring the advice of teachers, administrators, and President Obama, much of the MBA senior class, infected with excitement, herded themselves into the theater in an attempt to spread enthusiasm instead of disease.

First, I'll say *Origins* was my favorite addition to the recent *X-Men* movie franchise. Anyone who felt betrayed by the abysmal *X-Men: The Last Stand* should be a little bit comforted now. The fight scenes are unmatched, the effects are great, and Hugh Jackman is dog-awful. But, hey, a nuclear reactor explodes!

*X-Men Origins – 3/5*  
 Hugh Jackman – 0/5

*Hunger* (5/5) - It is undoubtedly one of the best movies we saw this year. *Hunger* is the directorial debut of Steve McQueen (no, not that Steve McQueen), and it brings the viewer to emotional devastation. Every scene is long, excruciatingly long, as all the details of the British prison torture of IRA terrorists are recounted. One of the most affecting scenes is an extended conversation between the man orchestrating the prison hunger strike and a priest. The exchange is un-cut, making the already incredible acting seem impossibly more believable. These peaceful moments are countered by the horrific actions of both the IRA and the Thatcher-inspired prison regime. See this movie!!! Viewers may, however, want to pick up smoking after they see it, as the battered Irishmen make cigarettes cool again.

*Angels and Demons* ("who cares?" out of 5) - Ron Howard and Tom Hanks are at it

again. Dan Brown's follow up to the previous, absurd *DaVinci Code* is quite boringly brought to the screen for your mother's book club. There is, however, one improvement from the *DaVinci Code*: someone wrote in that Robert Langdon got a haircut, thus no more ridiculous Tom Hanks' hair. Amen! Essentially, the film is a jumbled mess of everything Bernini ever did (Thanks, Mr. Womack, for making it relevant at all), the Pantheon, and, of course, sobbing Catholic masses. And, don't worry, in this one you see two people set on fire! Yay, martyrdom! By the way, anti-matter seems a bit inconvenient. Also, *Angels and Demons* is the movie that the class of 2009 all bondingly saw in brotherhood. Fitting title for the class I'd say...

*Star Trek* ("omg!" out of 5) - If Brian Swenson were born in the future, Starfleet would be his destiny. Everything I imagined. What a revitalization of the series! Now, most "trekies" might say that it's been glorified by Hollywood, but I will assure that those who are not "trekies" (that is, the majority of the universe) hated *Star Trek* before J.J. Abrams took over. Abrams (creator of *Lost* and *Alias*, schwing) controls the camera like a maniac, and his action sequences are brilliant. I will admit that, the terrible villain music and Eric Bana as the evil Romulan mastermind were rather dull and not nearly as colorful as everything else. Boo! However, the USS Enterprise never looked so sleek and fine and light-speed modern (reminds me of jet skin in Cabo). You're out of your Vulcan mind if you don't see this flick! (The movie fails on one level: no William Shatner. Another Boo!!)

## Baseball Team Finishes 2<sup>nd</sup> In The Region

by  
**Alex Apple**  
*Sports Editor*

The MBA baseball season started out with many questions. Who would play each position? What would the lineup look like? Coach Mike Anderson said before the season, "The only thing we know is that we know nothing."

MBA had lost several seniors to college programs and had only a few seniors returning: Centerfielder Spencer Wise, catcher Hooper Paty, and pitcher/first base Wade Nelson, along with Chris Vincent and Matt Rattcliffe.

There were also several young players who would need to contribute if the team was going to have success. Sophomore Joe Riegle and freshman Alex Kohls won the starting jobs at third base and shortstop, respectively.

Through all the uncertainty MBA finished with a regular season second place in the region. Coach Anderson was quick to say that, "The fight and determination that catapulted us to a 2<sup>nd</sup>-place regular season finish" was the most pleasing part of the season. After winning just one of their first five region games, the team won eight of

their next nine region games and finished with a huge 4-3 win over rival Father Ryan. They were 3-0 against their rival over the whole season.

The Big Red were also 3-0 with a couple dominating wins over rival Ens-worth. Heading into the postseason, the team had games rescheduled due to the swine flu break. Though the team did not make it past the regionals, there was much to smile about for the year:

They found some great new pieces who will be crucial for the team over the next few years.

Several juniors such as Neil Reinhardt, Denney Sandwith, William Tanner, and David Lee played key roles and will provide great senior leadership next year.

MBA was successful in beating their rivals many times and finished a very pleasing regular season.

MBA will lose several key seniors, such as the best pitcher, Wade Nelson, and leadoff hitter Spencer Wise, but next year should be a very interesting year for the Big Red.



The baseball team watches the game from its dugout.

## Staff for '09-'10

# THE BELL RINGER



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## MBA Language Students Excel

by  
**Michael Seitz**  
*Staff Gold Medal Winner*

MBA language scholars continued their success this year in the national language exams. Dr. Richard Seay, who heads the Department of Foreign Languages, applauds the work of the students, but he also has the highest praise for every teacher in the department.

In Latin, over 46% of the 318 students taking the National Latin Exam scored gold medals, and 7% had perfect papers. High school students earning perfect papers were Karthik Sastry, Holt Akers-Campbell, Joe Scherrer, Carter Callaway, Kevin Carr, Daniel Todd, and Pat Killian.

In Greek, seniors Will Overton and Brian Swenson earned "High Honors" with *Maxima Cum Laude*.

In French, placing highest in their respective levels were Sam Denney, Ford Altenber, Lewis Armistead, Michael Nunnan, and Connor Shope.

Of the 22 German students, 20 were at or above the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile, and 12 were at or above the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile. Will McCaskill in Level II, as well as Patrick Clarke, David Horak, and Pat Killian in Level III, each finished in the 99<sup>th</sup> percentile nationally.

Finally, in Spanish, the top performers were Cullen Moran in Level 1, Paul Van Pernis and Eric Mace in Level 2, and Fitz Lassing in Level 3.

Year after year MBA's language students place at the highest levels in state and national competitions.

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## The Tennis Team Finishes a Strong Season

by  
**Tom Markham**  
*Staff Sports Writer*

Few people know much about the MBA varsity tennis team, either because it is not a mainstream sport or because the courts are so far away from the hub of campus activity, but despite its undeserved lack of publicity, the tennis team has humbly progressed through the year as one of the top tennis programs in the state.

What most people conjure when they first hear the word "tennis" is two men slamming a ball back and forth across the court while the crowd watches silently, moving their heads from side to side. Many people see it as a boring, individualistic sport, but the varsity tennis team proves the contrary.

Indeed, Coach Zac Hood stresses the teamwork aspect of this sport. He says that one thing that makes this year's team really stand out is the camaraderie amongst the players. He says, "The guys enjoy playing with and for each other. That is such a great thing to have in such an individual sport, and this can make a difference against other teams who do not have that strong team element."

Each of the players on the team

agrees that success in the sport is a team effort. Sophomore player Russ Anderson says, "A successful tennis team requires each player to execute his role and be a leader. Whether it's leading by example on the court, or cheering your heart out in the stands. Our team has bonded together and each player is here for one another."

The team effort involved in tennis, however, does not diminish the individual nature of the sport once a player steps on the court. The eight-man starting lineup is a very diverse group, consisting of seniors Richard Brunsting and Leland Bandlow, juniors Naveen Chadalavada and Jake Hymes, sophomores Russ Anderson and Davis Thraikill, freshman Palmer Campbell, and even eighth-grader Andrew Karpas.

In each match the players face an evenly-matched opponent, and sometimes the player must fight to win every point. Russ Anderson claims that the most important skill in a good tennis player is mental stability. He says, "At this level, everyone's skills are just as good as the man standing next to him. For example, if I am playing the best tennis of my life, and my opponent

doesn't seem phased, it sends a vibe that I am going to have to fight for every point. However, if my opponent is throwing his racquet and giving up, the match is already over."

Another key member of this year's tennis team is junior Roger Briggs, a state champion last year who, because he transferred from McCallie in the middle of the year, was not eligible to compete this season. However, Roger has been keeping his game sharp and hopes to be a key member of the team next year. He says, "I am at a slight disadvantage because of not being able to play high school matches. However, I still play tournaments and get to practice a lot outside of MBA. I am going to several USTA tournaments coming up this spring and early summer."

The tennis team has indeed enjoyed great success this year as one of Tennessee's best programs. The team has traveled across the Southeast to compete in tournaments and has even hosted a tournament of its own, the Carter Invitational.

Each player has a strong personal

match record. Six of the starting eight players are undefeated in their matches. Coach Hood believes this success all goes back to the team aspect of the game. He says, "I really believe it is pretty empty and lonely to be playing any sport for your own gain and your own glory. It can't satisfy you internally. So I believe a greater goal is to play for each other, the team, your coaches, and the school."

Indeed, the team will carry this mentality next year as the players look to capture a state championship. Roger Briggs says, "Next year I think that MBA will have the best tennis team in the state, maybe even the South. Most other schools are graduating a lot of seniors, and we keep a large majority of our lineup, with even a few strong additions." With a solid team mentality and a large pool of individual talent, the MBA varsity tennis team sets high goals for itself and will look to achieve these goals in the seasons to come.



Russ Anderson returns a serve.



The MBA Track team celebrates its win in the Region Track Championship.

## The Bell Ringer Talks With AD O'Neal

by  
**Alex Apple**  
*Sports Editor*

**BR:** On the whole are you happy with the way everything went this year, 2008-2009?

**AD O'Neal:** Absolutely. We had success in every program. For the most part, every team equaled or bettered last year's accomplishments. Our athletes worked very hard, developed tremendous team spirit and unity, and acted with sportsmanship. We made progress in revamping our intramural programming so that there are more offerings and so that they are more appealing to students. We also, have attempted to create far more training opportunities, so that every student has ample opportunities to stay in shape and take good care of himself. We have made some strides in the fitness testing for all students to make this a better and more useful program. All in all, I think this has been a good year for MBA athletics.

**BR:** Is MBA going to go through with the plan this summer of building the large left field wall with the roof on top of it?

**AD:** We are proceeding with the plan for the east side of campus, which includes a parking garage with a soccer field on top - this would create a large wall in left and left-center field of the baseball field... the Big Red Monster if you like! The planning process is ongoing, so the timing is somewhat up in the air - but I imagine that construction might begin before the end of the year.

**BR:** Which team surprised you most this year?

**AD:** I don't know that any team really surprised me...but there were certainly some highlights: the tremendous basketball season, varsity football's win over perennial powerhouse Moeller in the Herbster Clasic, cross country's huge win in the Great American and runner-up state finish (they certainly would have won but for some bad luck with illness and injury), a swimming national ranking, the Doug Hall, Buster Relays, and Region track wins, and the state championship in Ultimate...not to mention, the great performances of our Microbe teams - off the top of my head.

**BR:** Are there going to be any other changes to MBA's athletic programs next year? Like facilities? school policies? Etc.

**AD:** We will always approach each year with renewed energy and planning to keep improving in every way. We want to continue to expand intramurals and training opportunities so that every student has great options; we want to get more students involved in the athletic program, not just as competitors - but as managers, trainers, athletic department assistants, broadcasters, videographers, etc....there is no end to ways to participate; and we want to ensure that we are taking the best care of our athletes in terms of nutrition, sports medicine, and fitness training techniques. Really, our goal is to be cutting edge in everything we do for our students.

**BR:** Thank you Coach O'Neal.

# Spring Sports Stats, Final Edition

by  
Kyle Brantley  
Staff Statistician

## Track

Highland Games 1<sup>st</sup> Place  
 Buster Relays 1<sup>st</sup> Place  
 Doug Hall Relays 1<sup>st</sup> Place  
 Nashville City Championship 1<sup>st</sup> Place  
 TSSAA DII Region 1<sup>st</sup> Place  
 TSSAA State 5<sup>th</sup> Place:  
 MBA earned 65 points in State-(1. MUS; 2. BA; 3. CBHS; 4. Ensorth)

## 2009 Varsity Track Points\*

### Name and Total

Wesley Johnson	79.00
Bryan Oslin	71.92
Michael Peters	68.00
Patrick Crum	66.67
Scott Bubis	66.00
Ryan Venable	53.67
Chase Owen	50.17
Leland Howe	38.67
David Dalton	38.17
Baker Mulherin	38.17
Ryan Hill	36.00
Jhamall Wright	24.25
Andrew Phillips	23.29
Dalton Fouts	22.50
Daniel Mace	16.25
Rhett Wallace	16.25
Daniel Peters	15.50
Brad Bars	14.56
Andrew Powell	14.25
Paul Bamson	13.60
Jarrett Love	12.25
Steven Gaittens	12.02
Kevin Carr	12.00

\*Points earned by placing in top 5 in a varsity meet (through the Region Meet)

## Region Meet

Decathlon -Bryan Oslin (1); Brad Bars (3)  
 Pole Vault -Leland Howe (1); Baker Mulherin (4); David Dalton (5)  
 Long Jump -Patrick Crum (1); Chase Owen (4)  
 Triple Jump -Chase Owen (1); Bryan Oslin (3)  
 High Jump Ryan Venable (3)  
 Shot Put Wesley Johnson (1)  
 Discus Scott Bubis (5)  
 3200 Ryan Hill (2)  
 110 Hurdles -Ryan Venable (2); Bryan Oslin (5)  
 4x100 Relay MBA (3)  
 4x800 Relay MBA (3)  
 1600 Ryan Hill (3)  
 4x200 Relay MBA (1)  
 300 Hurdles -Bryan Oslin (3); Rhett Wallace (5)

800 Baker Mulherin (2)  
 4x400 Relay MBA (3)

## State Meet

Triple Jump	Chase Owen (5)
Discus	Scott Bubis (3)
Pole Vault	Leland Howe (3)
Long Jump	Patrick Crum (2)
Shot Put	Wesley Johnson (4)
110 Hurdles	Ryan Venable (2)
4x800 Relay	MBA (3)
4x200 Relay	MBA (5)
300 Hurdles	Bryan Oslin (4)

## Assists

1. George Curtis	39
2. Clay Adams	11
3. Nate Smith	08
4. Kile Garrett	07

## Points

1. George Curtis	58
2. Clay Adams	55
3. Kile Garrett	52
4. Connor Pagnani	41
5. Nate Smith	26

## Save %

1. Brandon Bailey- 61.1%

## Baseball

Record- 13-14 (9-6)

### Regionals

Game 1- BGA 6 MBA 3  
 Game 2- JPII 17 MBA 5

## Hitting Stats

Player	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	BB	SO	SB	RBI	OBP	Sig	BA
Alex Kohls	20	62	18	26	4	0	1	4	6	7	18	.500	.532	.419
Spencer Wise	27	80	27	31	2	3	0	19	10	18	16	.580	.488	.388
Neil Reinhardt	19	59	13	22	2	0	0	6	1	3	16	.500	.407	.373
Hooper Paty	27	81	16	30	4	0	0	6	5	0	19	.484	.420	.370
Wade Nelson	27	86	22	30	10	1	2	6	15	5	27	.406	.558	.349
William Tanner	24	67	17	23	2	3	0	4	13	7	10	.403	.463	.343
David Lee	21	49	19	16	6	1	0	11	7	4	5	.500	.490	.327
Matt Ractliffe	20	51	14	16	3	0	0	7	11	6	8	.433	.373	.314
Joe Riegle	26	72	14	21	5	0	0	8	13	10	10	.420	.361	.292
Tom Corcoran	22	52	16	15	6	0	0	7	6	2	9	.508	.404	.288

## Pitching Stats

Player	G	IP	BB	SO	W	L	Sv	ERA
Denney Sandwith	11	21.0	13	14	2	0	2	3.33
Wade Nelson	9	50.1	20	29	3	4	0	4.03
Chris Vincent	7	32.1	18	15	3	2	1	6.06
Tom Corcoran	8	32.0	34	14	4	2	0	7.22

## Lacrosse

Record- 12-7  
 Lost in DI State Semifinal to McCallie

## Goals

1. Kile Garrett	45 (34.4)
Shooting %)	
2. Clay Adams	41 (29.5 %)
3. Connor Pagnani	34 (47.2 %)
4. George Curtis	20 (19.2 %)
5. Sam Lincoln	19 (36.5 %)

## Tennis

Record- 12-3

\*Reached Semi-finals in State Tournament, but fell to Knoxville Webb 1-4. The sole point for MBA came from the racket of Palmer Campbell in his victory over Trey Hatcher.

Palmer Campbell (MBA) def. Trey Hatcher (K. Webb) 6-4, 3-6, 6-4

## Depth Chart-Starting 6

- Naveen Chadalavada
- Richard Brunsting
- Palmer Campbell
- Russ Anderson
- Davis Thraikill
- Leland Bandlow

